

# e-Bugle

Garrett Bugle Internet Edition

Volume 54

June 2007

No. 6



## Calendar

|                 |   |                  |  |
|-----------------|---|------------------|--|
| Fri., June 22   | Art Sale, Town Hall (also Sat. and Sun.)                    | Sat., Aug. 4     | GIVES, Penn Place, 9 am–1 pm   |
| Wed., June 27   | Citizens Assoc. Meeting, Town Hall, 8 pm (topic TBA)        | Thurs., Aug. 16  | Casual Music Jam, Town Hall, 7 pm  |
| Fri., June 29   | Film Society, <i>Bride and Prejudice</i> , Town Hall, 7 pm  | Wed., Aug. 22    | Citizens Assoc. Meeting, Town Hall, 8 pm (topic TBA)                           |
| Sat., June 30   | Progressive Dinner all around town, Town Hall, 6 pm         | Fri., Aug. 24    | Garrett Park Elementary open house for students/parents to meet teachers, 2 pm |
| Wed., July 4    | 4th of July activities (see p 3 and poster)                 | Sat., Aug. 25    | Annual family crab feast at the pool (time TBA)                                |
| Thurs., July 5  | Casual Music Jam, Town Hall, 8 pm                           | Mon., Aug. 27    | Start of public school for the year  |
| Sat., July 7    | GIVES, Penn Place, 9 am–1 pm                                | Thurs., Aug. 30  | Casual Music Jam, Town Hall, 7 pm  |
| Sun., July 8    | Grosvenor Market Day at the pool, 12–2 pm                   | Mon., Sept. 3    | No trash pickup—Labor Day  |
| Mon., July 9    | Town Council meeting, Town Hall, 8 pm                       | Thurs., Sept. 6  | Casual Music Jam, Town Hall, 8 pm  |
| Sat., July 14   | Adult Party at the Pool (time TBA); Large item trash pickup | Fri., Sept. 7    | GP Film Society, <i>Paper Clips</i> , Town Hall                                |
| Tues., July 17  | Swimming Pool Assoc. Meeting, Pool, 7:30 pm                 | Sat., Sept. 8    | GIVES, Penn Place, 9 am–1 pm   |
| Thurs., July 19 | Casual Music Jam, Town Hall, 8 pm                           | Sun., Sept. 9    | Pool closes, 2 pm; Dog Swim, 7 pm  |
| Sat., July 21   | Opera Highlights Concert, Town Hall, 4 pm (see p 3)         | Mon., Sept. 10   | Town Council meeting; Town Hall, 8 pm  |
| Wed., July 25   | Citizens Assoc. Meeting, Town Hall, 8 pm (topic TBA)        | Tues., Sept. 11  | Lunch Bunch begins again, Town Hall, 12:30 pm;<br><i>Bugle</i> deadline, 3 pm  |
| Thurs., Aug. 2  | Casual Music Jam, Town Hall, 7 pm                           | Thurs., Sept. 20 | Casual Music Jam, Town Hall, 8 pm  |
|                 |   | Wed., Sept. 26   | Citizens Assoc. Meeting, Town Hall, 8 pm (TBA)                                 |

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Garrett Park, Maryland 20896-0456

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# Of Debate and Dumpsters

The first rule of journalism is that a reporter doesn't become part of the story. But, when Mayor Shawaker opened the June Town Council meeting with a warm "Good evening, citizen," it became difficult for an audience of one hide to behind a note pad. Fortunately, the crowd soon doubled in size.

The first order of business was a demolition hearing for a property owned by one of the Council's own: Chuck Berry. With no historic preservation objections, discussion was minimal.

Beginning the evening's reports, Mayor Shawaker mentioned that a contract has been signed for the design and development of an enhanced town Web site. That led Jack Mandel to ask if the site is being planned not just for attractiveness, but for utility—offering online forms, for example. Answers, the Mayor replied, are a little down the line, since the design process is in its infancy; however, the site needs to be both readily expandable and user friendly.

It was at this point that decorum—and Parliamentary Procedure—hit some rough spots. During his report, Chuck Berry worked through a list of items, including tree concerns; the apparently multiplying dumpsters, oil drums, and sundry messes behind Penn Place; and what to do about Penn Place parking. On that score, he asked, while the Town is trying to obtain grant money, shouldn't design and planning move forward? And, he added, perhaps there is a worthy new option that has yet to be considered for design of Penn Place parking.

With that, Hans Wegner rose to object (actually, he stayed seated, but his voice rose): "If it's not on the agenda, we shouldn't go there," he said. For a few uncomfortable moments, remarks echoed back and forth about just what is or isn't appropriate to discuss in a Council meeting and the difference between rules and tradition. The Mayor appealed for calm. Further discussion on areas of wide concern, she explained, should be placed on the July agenda, so interested citizens can attend.

With order restored but eye contact minimal for the remainder of the meeting, Jack Mandel turned his report to the subject of garbage. Indeed, he agreed, there is a concern to be addressed about dumpsters and trash odor behind Penn Place—not to mention the vermin that may be lurking out there. (A reportorial field trip later in the evening confirmed the trash bins with lids ajar and the 55-gallon oil drums, but we were unable to verify the odor. It was muggy that night, and the car air conditioner was on.)

In his report, Hans expressed frustration with inattention by the State Highway Administration to a punch list for Strathmore repairs, leading the Mayor to suggest that a stern letter may be in order. Additionally, Hans reported, the Town

has signed a contract with an engineering firm to assess street repairs.

The Council then voted to cancel its August meeting, despite Jack's suggestion that "we wear bathing suits" and proceed apace.

Finally, the Council voted on Chuck's demolition permit. The property owner recused himself, and his application received unanimous support. In other words, the meeting may have been contentious, but in Garrett Park, revenge is not an option.

Richard Folkers

## Bugle Break

This is the time of year that the *Bugle* staff takes a well-earned rest for the months of July and August. The nimble fingers of the folding staff in the Town Office, the reporters, the editorial staff, and the mailing team need a vacation. We thank you for the news tidbits that have come our way, and if you have any exciting vacations this summer, let us know for the September issue.

And as you probably noticed, we are still green. Kitty Barclay nicely sent us money in January for our green banner this month. We thank her for her generosity.

See you again in September.



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The *Garrett Bugle* is a publication of the Citizens Association of Garrett Park, published 10 times a year. Publication of the *Bugle* is supported by member dues. All residents of Garrett Park are members of the Citizens Association. Yearly dues (\$20 per family or \$10 per individual per address) can be sent to Citizens Association, Box 456, Garrett Park, MD 20896.

**Citizens Association Officers:**

Presidents: Matt Stavish  
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**Bugle staff:**

**Editor:** Barbara Collier (Box 191)  
**Reporters:** Mary Moyer (Box 98)  
Richard Folkers (Box 132)  
Margaret Soltan (Box 518)  
Carol Davies Lillie (Box 351)

**Graphic design:** Linda Paine

**Ads:** Mary Moyer (Box 98)

**Subscriptions:** Jane Salomon (Box 227) **Distribution:** Peggy Pratt  
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# July 4th Celebration

Planning has started for our annual July 4th Parade and celebration. The theme for this year's parade will be "American Music."

- 7:30-8 am Fun Run/Walk registration at Penn Place parking lot (all ages)
- 8 am 2-mile Fun Run/Walk begins
- 9:45 am Register for parade at Garrett Park Elementary School
- 10 am Parade steps off

After the parade comes the ceremony to bestow awards in many categories on parade participants. Garrett Park's own "Border State" will play original music and country rock hits, and the Citizens Association will offer hot dogs and burgers for sale.

In the afternoon, the festivities continue:

- 1-4 pm Games at Garrett Park Pool
- 3 pm 18th Annual Softball Game at GPES
- 6 pm Picnic at Penn Place

For the picnic, bring your own fixings. Grills are available. There will be live music by David Meredith, as well as snacks provided by the Citizens Association.

The annual event, which we all enjoy, requires a lot of work to pull off. The Citizens Association is looking for volunteers to help. How about being a parade judge or helping to sell hot dogs and hamburgers after the parade? If you are interested, please e-mail Melissa Bronez.

## A Musical Offering

If you attended the Musicale at the Town Hall last month, you might have wondered about the "third" singer in the operatic trios. She is mezzo-soprano Deborah Kieffer, who came to us all the way from Rockville where she teaches singing. Before moving to this area Deborah was an opera soloist in both Europe and the U.S., notably at the New York City Opera. Among the many stars she has sung with are Beverly Sills, Renata Tebaldi, Montserrat Caballé, Shirley Verrett, and Carlo Bergonzi.

How's that? You missed the Musicale? Don't despair! Deborah is forming a small operatic ensemble, and she's asked Barbara Collier, Sue Petito, and Jonathan Paul to join her in a program of arias, duets, and trios by Mozart, Puccini, Bellini, Saint-Saëns, Delibes, Bizet, and Offenbach to be presented at the Town Hall on July 21 at 4 pm. Themes of love, fidelity, infidelity, rivalry, jealousy, lust, hatred, revenge, murder, blasphemy, beauty, duty, friendship, betrayal, fate, death, and devilry will be touched upon. Donations will be accepted for the Ilah Gieser Music Scholarship. Don't miss this golden operatunity!

# Letter to the Editor

## Tradition in Jeopardy

When I first arrived in Garrett Park in 1971, I was asked to draw a flyer for the 4th of July celebration, which I have continued to do ever since. The schedule of events for that day included "the 18th annual softball game." When I did the flyer the next year, I naturally wrote the "19th annual softball game." I was corrected, and told that it is always the 18th annual softball game. It has been that way ever since, and nobody knows why or how that tradition started. Though the game has been scheduled for the past two years, it has not been played for lack of interested players. The game pits Garrett Park against players from Garrett Park Estates and White Flint Park. It is always a highly spirited game with lots of fun and laughs. It is open to almost all ages, and ladies are welcome to participate. Please get out your mitts and bats, and get your friends to come to the Garrett Park Elementary School at 3 pm on the 4th, and let's continue the tradition and play the 18th annual softball game.

Dave Almy

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[www.garrettpark.org/](http://www.garrettpark.org/)



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# Who Let the Dogs Out?

Proud Garrett Parkers paraded 23 four-legged family members at the inaugural Pooch Parade, sponsored by the Garrett Park Citizens Association. The event featured dogs of all shapes and sizes parading from Penn Place to Montrose to Argyle, past the Farmers Market and back to Penn Place. Clifford took home the blue ribbon for “Best Costume,” donning a Harley Davidson cap. The event culminated with a Trick Contest

won by Chris and Henri Keller’s dog, Nina, who balanced a biscuit on her nose and then popped it into the air, catching it in one motion.

Thanks to the many people who helped make the event a success, including Zoe Lewis, Sarah Poling, Chris Strong, Todd Harris, Matt Stavish, Pam Morgan, and Carolyn Shawaker. Congratulations to the winners below and to all the participants who made this a fun event.

| Award        | 1st Place                               | 2nd Place                     | 3rd Place                               |
|--------------|---|-------------------------------|---|
| Best Costume | Clifford<br>(Robin Daly)                | Oreo<br>(Nancy Kotz & Hannah) | Bear<br>(Flora Brendan Gladain)         |
| Biggest      | Vegas<br>(Candi Mulcahy)                | Quincy<br>(Bette Runck)       | Olney<br>(Dave Almy)                    |
| Smallest     | Nikko<br>(Elena Hayes)                  | Clifford                      | Cleo<br>(Barry, Mary, JoAnna, & Ruthie) |
| Best Tail    | Wolfie<br>(Miya, Kima, & Leona Hiraoka) | Oreo                          | Taku<br>(Beth Irons)                    |
| Best Ears    | Toby<br>(Mary Jane Gill)                | Alex<br>(Brian Mizoguchi)     | Fozzie Bear<br>(Mary Jane Gill)         |
| Best Coat    | Bella<br>(Candi Mulcahy)                | Taku                          | Vegas                                   |
| Best Trick   | Nina<br>(Chris and Henri Keller)        | Taku                          | Molly<br>(Fredrika Moser)               |



## Bugle Notes . . . Sweet and Sour

- ♪ Two more bikes were stolen from a backyard recently. The Duyns of Keswick Street discovered their bikes among the missing two weeks ago. One was subsequently found beyond repair in Rock Creek, but the other is still gone. Make sure you have some identifying marks engraved on your bike, or lock it up when you are not using it.
- ♪ A note from Donal McLaughlin: "The infamous hazard at the confluence of Kenilworth and Waverly, where my care-giver Susan fell several years ago, breaking an expensive bone in her foot, is again in the news. The stalwart orange-colored safety barrels stationed to warn of the hazard have become innocent victims, eventually sliding into and filling the hole. I think it is a touching but untidy spectacle that need not happen in our town."
- ♪ Joseph Lepak called to express his thanks to the Mayor, the Women's Club, and the Citizens Association for hosting an over-80s party at the Town Hall on Sunday, June 3. He said it was a memorable occasion, beautifully done, and something that makes Garrett Park a special place.
- ♪ Kudos go to Nan Gootenberg, daughter of Florence, who won two Gold Medals in the Special Olympics statewide games staged at Towson University recently. She won them for excelling at Bocce.
- ♪ The Garrett Park Children's Center, part of the Montgomery Child Care Association, is looking to fill two teaching staff positions. They would be for the pre-school and school age programs and would begin in mid-August. If interested, call Amanda Hawk or e-mail garrettpark2@aol.com.
- ♪ The 11th annual Comcast Outdoor Film Festival at Strathmore Hall will start on August 10 this year and continue until August 19. Films include *The Devil Wears Prada*, *Dreamgirls*, *The DaVinci Code*, and *Happy Feet*, among others. In other Strathmore news, the free outdoor concert series on Wednesdays has started already and will continue until August 8.
- ♪ Do you have leftover latex paint? Use it up mixed with other colors as a primer coat, or donate unopened cans to schools or to religious, community, or theatre groups. Dry it up by removing the lid and placing it in a safe, well-ventilated area. Cans filled more than a quarter full will need mulch, cat litter, or a waste paint hardener added to help it dry out. Place the empty or dried paint cans in your trash for regular collection.
- ♪ A nice write-up in the Yale Alumni Magazine about Donal McLaughlin is posted on the Penn Place bulletin board. Take time to read it, and you will see that he made a design for something that we all know. You may not know that he is celebrating his 100th birthday this July, and is our own elder statesman in town.
- ♪ The Abrams family wants to thank all the Garrett Parkers who supported their fundraising yard sale on April 22. They raised over \$1400 for the Cystic Fibrosis Foundation and Max's Fund. They especially want to thank Donal McLaughlin for making creative signs and Kay Hager for her generous contribution.
- ♪ A couple of graduates were missed from the list in last month's *Bugle*. Erica Morse of Raleigh Avenue graduated from Walter Johnson and plans to attend Carleton College in Minnesota. Older sister Lauren graduated from Davidson College in North Carolina with a B.A. in economics; she will be working in Charlotte.

Don't you wish you could stop time?

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## Letter from the Mayor

There are many good things to report this month. Many of you have noticed by now the fully operating traffic signal at the corner of Strathmore and Kenilworth Avenues. I am told that the town began seeking a traffic signal in 1947. Also on Strathmore, a joint team of State Highway Administration and County Traffic Safety people have repaired the lights of the Keswick pedestrian crosswalk. This fully functioning system will make crossing Strathmore much safer for those who walk in town.

On July 1 our town maintenance staff will expand to include Jose Diaz. Jose worked temporarily with Butch and Frank to do the planting of the many new trees that have been planted throughout town and all the beautiful flowers around the pool, Town Hall, train station, and Penn Place. He will be helping with keeping all of these areas well tended, as well as the landscaping along Strathmore. In the winter he will be a part of our snow removal team. We will also

be getting a new pickup truck. Believe it or not, the tan truck will be celebrating its 17th birthday soon and is beginning to show its age.

On June 3, more than 30 of the over-80 gang braved the rain and wind of the tail of a tropical storm to come to a party at the Town Hall. Six young ladies helped by taking umbrellas and rain coats and serving food and drink to the honorees and over 100 others who braved the weather to honor those who have contributed so much to our town over the years. Everyone drank a lot of champagne!

Councilmember Beth Irons and I will be going to the Maryland Municipal League's Annual Convention June 24 to 27. I have been elected president of the Montgomery Chapter of MML and regional vice president of the state organization.

Have a wonderful summer.

Carolyn Shawaker

## Art at Penn Place this Summer

The *Bugle* will not be printed this summer, but please make a note on your calendars to see the two watercolor exhibitions that will be hung in Penn Place in July and August. Both of the artists are part of Garrett Park's "Over-80 Gang" and have lived in town for over 50 years. Both have a life-long interest in art. And both will be exhibiting watercolors.

From July 19 to August 18, the Penn Place Gallery will feature the work of Harry Dubinskis. Harry was born in Europe with art around him and has painted for his own pleasure for many years. His daughter, who is a professional artist, piqued his interest in the art of the Far East. He took a course in Chinese painting and was intrigued by the differences in materials, techniques, and thinking from what he was used to in Western art. For this show, which he calls "West

by East," he explores the fusion of ideas that occur when a Western painter meets Eastern techniques and thought processes. He hopes his pictures will speak for themselves and invoke appreciation and thoughtfulness in the viewer.

From August 20 to September 29, the featured artist will be Florence Gootenberg. After years of teaching children with special needs, Florence promised herself that when she retired, she would take a watercolor class with Garrett Park's own Martha Seigel. She took one of Martha's courses at Montgomery College and continued taking more courses there in design and color. She loves taking classes with Martha and values her gentle critiques and those of her fellow classmates. Her watercolors are mostly still lifes and gardenscapes, in which she searches for appealing colors, shapes, and designs.

A special feature of Florence's show will be a few works by her late husband—and beloved Garrett Park Santa Claus—Roy Gootenberg. She and Roy were high school sweethearts and always shared an interest in art. Roy even opened a gallery and art school in Georgetown in the 1950s that featured many of the artists who would gain fame as the Washington Color School. After retiring from government service, Roy had a chance to pursue his art again. The works shown at Penn Place were made during a life drawing class that Roy took in the mid 1990s.

Be sure to plan to see these two exhibits of the work of long-time Garrett Parkers and life-long art lovers.



## M. Elizabeth Stites

Beth Stites passed away on Memorial Day, May 28, 2007. She had been suffering from dementia, a broken hip, and then finally pneumonia. She had been a resident of Arden Courts since July 2004.

Beth graduated from New York University in 1940 with a degree in architecture, one of the first women to do so. She did some design work in Yellow Springs, Ohio, while her husband, Raymond, was an art professor at Antioch College. Moving to Maryland in 1949 when Raymond got a job at the National Gallery of Art in the Education Department, she joined the Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission as a draftsman. Moving to Garrett Park from Hyattsville in 1953 gave her a chance to actually design a house for her family. She finally got a job in the Art Department at the University of Maryland, but only as the department secretary, because she knew how to type. By the time she retired from there in 1975, she was a full professor, teaching the history of architecture and architectural rendering, and she was the head advisor for all the art majors. She had also helped to plan the new school of architecture before she left.

Having inherited a love of music from her mother, she led children's church and Girl Scout choirs, played accompaniment for various choruses, sang solos in college, and was the assistant organist at her church, St. Luke's Episcopal. In later years she got to be the choir mother hen at church, organizing music and robes, as well as the Easter breakfast. She passed on her musical talent to me, making me practice so that I could become as proficient as she was.

Moving to Garrett Park gave her the opportunity to become active in town organizations. She sat on the Historic Preservation committee for several years, even though our house was an eyesore according to the Park and Planning Commission. She got involved with the local Girl Scout troop although she did not like the idea of selling cookies door to door. Her being one of the founding members of the swimming pool gave me a chance to swim and take lifesaving courses, but I don't think she once got into the water. She got in trouble with the Post Office Department after she helped Mrs. Penn stuff the boxes during a Christmas deluge of cards. She wasn't supposed to be behind the scenes. She was very upset with the stop sign at the top of the sled-riding hill, especially after sliding into a parked car while trying to stop on Kenilworth. In her later years she helped fold this paper once a month, and enjoyed talking to the other folders about the state of the town.

She leaves behind her daughter (me); a step-daughter, Nan Fisk, in Brevard, North Carolina; two grandsons, Philip, of Garrett Park, and Christopher, soon to be back in Garrett Park also; and a step-grandson, Stan Thoenen of Frederick, Maryland. A fine musical send-off with full choir was held at St. Luke's Church on June 3, with burial right after in the church's memorial garden.

Contributions may be made in her memory to the St. Luke's Episcopal Church, Capital Campaign Fund, 6030 Grosvenor Lane, Bethesda, MD 20814 or to the Alpha-1 Foundation, 2937 SW 27th Ave. Suite 302, Miami, FL 33133.

Mary Elizabeth Stites Moyer

# Garrett Park 4<sup>th</sup> JUL

CELEBRATION  
2007



This year's theme "American Music"

7<sup>30</sup> - 8<sup>00</sup> A.M. Fun Run/Walk - Registration  
(All Ages) at Penn Place  
Parking Lot

8<sup>00</sup> A.M. Fun Run/Walk Begins

9<sup>45</sup> A.M. Register for parade at Garrett Park  
Elementary

10<sup>30</sup> A.M. Parade steps off.

After The Parade

Music By Garrett Park's own "Border State"  
original music & country rock hits

Parade Awards Ceremony

Hot dogs & Burgers on sale

1<sup>00</sup> - 4<sup>00</sup> P.M. Games @ Garrett Park Pool

3<sup>00</sup> P.M. 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Softball Game - G.P.E.S.

6<sup>00</sup> P.M. Picnic @ Penn Place

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